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WAR & PEACE

NATO makes hollow bluster as the whole world balks

IN the climate of a week in which "the West" officially approved re-creation of a Nazi-led German army—less than seven years after U.S. troops entered Buchenwald—spring came early on Capitol Hill with an unprecedented blossoming of investigations. Under inspection were tax scandals, ship deals, RFC loans, vast squandering of the people's money on African air bases—even Truman's "clean-up" commission itself.

A visitor to Washington felt "like a man who has just made a swift trip through a sewer" (Robert C. Ruark, Feb. 23). He was impressed not by investigations but by

> . . . the implied deeply-buried rottenness at the core . . . the feeling of cheapness, too, about the seekers after "truth" as if they were digging not so much for decency as to attract attention to themselves.

As State Dept. adviser John Foster Dulles called for U.S. "dynamism" and something more akin to the world's "revolutionary spirit," some Congressmen abandoned investigation to organize a conference of "Iron Curtain refugees" which decided revolution in Russia is possible—even as NATO in Lisbon was told the Soviet regime is now more stable than at any time since 1917 (N.Y. **Times**, Feb. 22).

A MEDAL FOR TRUMAN: The House took an implied slap at the Korean War in voting a demand that Secy. Acheson reveal any secret military commitments to Churchill. Politicians alternately denounced "Truman's war" and called for its extension. Latest demand for attacking China came from Adm. Radford, Pacific Fleet Commander. Rep. W. J. B. Dorn (D-S.C.), back from a world tour, told Congress U.S. policy is bankrupt, revealed that former Far East Air Chief Stratemeyer had wanted to bomb China even before Chinese entry into Korea. Rep. LeRoy Anderson (R-Cal.) explained that Stratemeyer was so frustrated over not being able to bomb China that he retired with a heart attack. Spencer D. Irwin (Cleveland **Plain Dealer**, Feb. 17) predicted Truman would heed the advice of the "all-out" war-on-China group, explaining that

> . . . no one in the Administration has an answer how to handle the economy of the West without the stimulant of rearmament.

From Mrs. Donna Cooper of Memphis the President received the Purple Heart awarded her son Paul, an aspirant to the priesthood killed in Korea, with this note:

> . . . He is a symbol of the 109,000 men who have been sacrificed in the needless slaughter of a so-called police action that has not and could never have been satisfactorily explained to patriotic Americans. . . . None of us appreciates the degradation and ridicule we have had to suffer.

A week earlier Mrs. George Davis, whose air-ace husband was killed in Korea, cried that he had died "in a war without reason." Montreal's Catholic **Le Devoir** (Feb. 13) said she was not the only one to believe this; the war was a military "and even more a moral failure," and the U.S. had succeeded only in making "the white man hated to an unimaginable degree." Stung by the mounting revulsion to the war, Gen. Ridgway lashed out at Americans who question "why we are in

(Continued on Page 3)

Rosenberg appeal is turned down

On Monday the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New York unanimously affirmed the conviction and death sentences of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg on charges of giving atomic information to agents of the U.S.S.R. (A night-club and gossip columnist, Leonard Lyons, had reported a week earlier the time and substance of the verdict.)

A full report on further steps in behalf of the couple, parents of two small sons, will appear in next week's GUARDIAN.

We urge every reader to communicate with the Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case, 246 Fifth Av., N. Y. 1, N. Y., for supplies of William A. Reuben's pamphlet on the case — to acquaint the public more widely with the facts and the conduct of the trial which brought the first death penalty in U.S. civil court history on spy charges.

A mass meeting to save the lives of the couple will be held under the Committee's auspices the night of March 12 at Pythian Temple, 135 W. 70th St., New York City.

"I'll be O.K., Mom," the boy said

And from the waist up he looked O.K. But if you looked again, you'd see that Sgt. King Long, U.S.A., of Tully, N.Y., had no legs. He lost them both in the Korean police action. His mother is greeting him at Oak Knoll Naval Hospital in California. As the police action goes on, two mothers who lost sons in it—Mrs. Edith Rosengrant of Springfield, Colo., and Mrs. Donna Cooper of Memphis, Tenn.—have returned posthumous Purple Heart medals to President Truman. (See WAR & PEACE, left). (In the midst of Washington investigations of cold-war waste and corruption, the Army announced it had 774,406 lbs. of surplus medals, is paying $17,500 a year to store them in 23,320 sq. ft. of warehouse space.)

THE WITCH HUNTERS ARE RIDING HIGH

Detroit, Hollywood, Hawaii face new inquisitions

THE HOUSE COMMITTEE on Un-American Activities was busier than bees last week: it had several new witnesses naming new names and scores of subpenas out; it opened new hearings in Detroit Feb. 25 and planned to grill leaders of progressive youth organizations in March; new Hollywood hearings aimed at doctors, lawyers, journalists were coming up. A new report asked:

- **Death penalty for espionage in peacetime (a bill is already in the Senate).**
- **Tougher laws for theft of government secret papers.**
- **Legalization of wire-tap evidence in espionage cases.**
- **Circumvention of Constitutional protection against self-incrimination by granting immunity to favored Congressional witnesses.**
- **Harsher restrictions on passports.**
- **A law requiring foreign nationals to surrender their passports upon arrival here.**

The report also criticized the movie industry; warned of Communist infiltration in TV; criticized MIT for having employed world-famed scientist Dirk J. Struik (see Mailbag); criticized Harvard Prof. Kirtley F. Mather and Harvard because Mather has supported Struik.

NEGRO LEADERS CALLED: The Detroit hearings have a sharp anti-union, anti-Negro slant. Five of the city's most prominent Negro leaders are under subpena: William R. Hood, president of the Natl. Negro Labor Council and an officer of UAW Ford Local 600; Rev. Charles A. Hill; Arthur McPhaul, head of the Michigan CRC; attorney LeBron Simmons; NNLC leader Coleman Young. Some 24 others, mostly unionists, are under subpena.

While the N.Y. **Times** was cuddling up to the Committee (it "may be listened to more respectfully than it used to be"), Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Assn. of America, called the criticism of Hollywood "misleading and unfair . . . a tremendous disservice to a fine patriotic industry." (There was another Hollywood angle: Adrian Scott, producer, and Ring Lardner Jr., writer, two of the Hollywood Ten who went to jail for refusing to answer Committee questions, won $84,000 from RKO and $20,000 from 20th Century Fox respectively for back pay and broken contracts).

Twentieth Century-Fox

Youth leaders under subpena include Paul Robeson Jr. and Betty Sanders, folk-singing head of People's Artists.

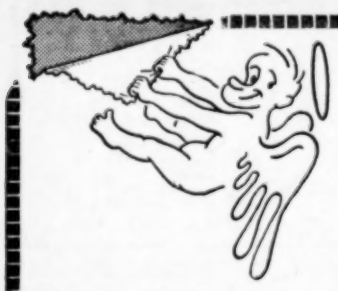
PURITY PREFERRED: Competing with the House Committee were committees and boards fathered by Sen. Pat McCarran (D-Nev.). Pending immigration bills sponsored by McCarran threaten millions of naturalized citizens, will exclude from the U.S. almost all but pure Anglo-Saxons with proved loyalty to the Truman Doctrine. The bills provide for denaturalization or deportation of all persons here who violated the laws of Nazi Germany or cooperated with underground resistance movements during World War II.

McCarran's Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, still trying to prove that U.S. Far Eastern policy is dictated by "subversive" influences, was told by William Mandel, author, lecturer and GUARDIAN contributor, that the committee's aim is war with China and the silencing of all who oppose such a war.

McCarran also turned up a witness, writer Nathaniel Weyl, to testify that he saw Alger Hiss pay Communist Party dues in the early '30s—the first person who linked Hiss directly with the CP. Hiss, former State Dept. official serving a five-year perjury sentence (he denied charges by Whittaker Chambers that he gave government documents to a Soviet spy ring) is demanding a new trial on the basis of "newly discovered evidence." Hearing on the new trial motion is set for April 8.

HAWAII AGAIN: McCarran announced his subcommittee will soon go to Hawaii for "subversive" hearings; two earlier sessions there by the Un-AAC resulted in the indictment of seven persons under the Smith Act. The McCarran hearings will coincide with a renewed effort by Hawaii to achieve statehood, opposed by Dixiecrats on the grounds that Hawaii representation in Congress might upset their balance of power against civil rights legislation.

Since April, 1951, the Subversive Activities Control Board, set up under the McCarran Act, has been conducting hearings it hopes will force the CP to register membership with the government as a foreign-controlled organization. Last week the hearings droned on. A federal judge recently dismissed a second suit to halt the proceedings on the grounds that the hearing panel is illegal because its head has failed to secure Senate confirmation. The government was up to its 15th witness; all have been expelled CP members or described as FBI agents in the CP.



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THE MAIL BAG

Impeach, he says

VICTOR, COLO.

Why don't the peace organizations commence the demand for Truman's impeachment? His impeachment might save America from the fate of old Rome. Andrew Johnson was impeached, and his sins were small compared to Truman. **W. B. Butler**

Have YOU written?

MARTINS FERRY, O.

I'm wondering how many American citizens, including readers of the GUARDIAN, have written their members of Congress, vigorously protesting the enactment of the proposed "involuntary servitude" law, commonly known as Universal Military Training.

The word "universal," is in itself a lie. It will not be universal. Those who advocate, will work for and vote for the passage of that bill, will not be eligible therefor. They will remain safely and comfortably at home enjoying a season of war prosperity while the 18½-year-old kids will endure the hell of military training and, maybe, a provoked war. **George F. Curry**

Don't tread on Iceland!

NEW YORK, N. Y.

Just saw the Feb. 13 GUARDIAN. O.K. Except joke on page 3. The cartoon is good except the including of Iceland with the helmet and ax. I beg to differ with **De Groene Amsterdammer**. Of all of the countries in the world I can not think of one that has no army or navy but Iceland.

Unfortunately Iceland is now under occupation of the U. S. Army, U. S. Navy and the U. S. Air Force. **Leo A. Kanner**

Brunhilde was right

SCAPPOOSE, ORE.

Despite my most profound reluctance to make the GUARDIAN readers unhappy I must report the mortal insult that was offered to our beloved Ike by the German peace mongers. The principal speaker of a Frankfurt anti-rearmament mass meeting referred to Ike as "der amerikanische Schweinhund." I asked Brunhilde what the word Schweinhund means. She wouldn't tell me, but she assured me that it was a foul cuss word, nine degrees dirtier than what Truman called Drew Pearson.

It may take decades of reeducating before the German can be entrusted with the task of defending the virtues of our free enterprise. **Vincent Noga**

How crazy can you get dept.

The feeling is growing in Washington that the next few years will reveal whether there is to be a truce in Korea.
—St. Paul Pioneer Press, Feb. 12 (lead of page 1 AP story).

A free 1-year sub to sender of each item published under this heading. Winner: ———, Northfield, Minn. (did not send name).

Life in a trailer

PALM SPRINGS, CALIF.

I have a card from you reminding me about a letter I was supposed to receive. I can't remember about it, but as it was probably after my money I'll cough up anyway (enclosed $5). I never buy things, because when you live in a trailer you only throw things away or have no place to stay. I like throwing money at the GUARDIAN; that is one of the most pleasant ways of getting rid of what little I have of it. **Carlotta C. Kinsley**

Profit and loss

TONASKET, WASH.

Money is tight, and is going to be a damn sight tighter, with many billions being worse than wasted in our wanton, fiendish, wicked attack on the innocent Koreans. However, herewith check for ten bucks to cover five subs. As a rule I am "fed up" on liberal and radical papers. None of you have the brains or the bravery to talk AMERICAN. We hear a hell of a lot of talk about the beauty of the "Profit System," by loud-mouth thieves who have grown rich as a result of adroitly working the shell game; and we hear the same acclaim from many near-beggars who have the thief impulse but have only the beggar ability.

There is NO PROFIT SYSTEM, never was, and never will be. There was and is a Profit and Loss System. It takes useful, constructive, creative work to produce WEALTH. The man who, with his work, produces that wealth is entitled to the WEALTH, and ALL THE WEALTH, that his labor produces. Good, just pay for useful effort, but NO profit. Because, when any man gets a profit some other man suffers a loss.

Karl Marx was sound, scientifically correct and a great thinker, and a damned poor writer. Academic, windy talks on "The Materialistic Conception of History" are good for scholars, for students, but there are almost no birds of that feather even in our colleges.

Think of "Elder Statesman" Baruch. Did he ever EARN a single dollar? Yet he "made" and has some millions of wealth that other men EARNED but he GOT.

I was a candidate in 1944 and 1946 on the Republican ticket for nomination to U. S. Senate on an Abe Lincoln, George Norris, Chas. L. McNary REAL Republican platform. Opposed to Hirohito, Hitler, Hess, Hearst, Hoover, Hell and Hogism. **J. Parkhurst Douglass**

The haunting spectre

SEATTLE, WASH.

Sen. McCarthy is now attacking Philleo Nash because Mr. Nash's aunt, who died many years ago, allegedly had something or another to do with the Communist Party.

Will his next target be the Republican N. Y. **Herald Tribune** whose predecessor, the N. Y. **Daily Tribune**, 100 years ago employed Karl Marx as its European correspondent? **Gertrude Holzinger**

Daily Express, London

"Bravo my dear Irma! In that frock no physicist will be able to resist you—but where on earth are you going to conceal the formula when you've got it?"

Local 890 says "Thanks"

BAYARD, N. M.

The 15-month and 10-day strike of Local 890, Intl. Union of Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers against the N. J. (Empire) Zinc Co. at Hanover, N. M., has ended with the union emerging victorious, stronger and more united than ever.

It is needless to say that without your contribution to this strike the result might have been different. Thank you again and again.

It is notable that contributions came from all over the U. S., Canada, Mexico and as far as New Zealand. The progressive newspapers were of inestimable value in carrying our story and to them we are forever indebted. Local unions all over the nation responded to our appeals; to them we give our special thanks too.

Simon Molina
Chairman Relief Committee

Let George—and us—rest

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

Attention Station KNX!

For the love of God, give us a rest from British royalty. This has been going on for days now. What's a king more or less in these days? Certainly it's not going to make any difference to us and our problems or to the British people and their problems. All we want to know and all they want to know, from what I hear about them, is: "When do we eat better?" **Irritated Housewife**

1960 looks back

NEW YORK, N. Y.

In the Feb. 13 GUARDIAN the **New Times'** "Collier's Dream in Reverse" is heralded. I'd like to tell you that Moscow isn't the only place where the crystal ball shows different pictures. American youth have a great stake in a peaceful future, and therefore the **Jewish Youth Builder**, a progressive monthly, has given its answers to **Collier's** in its February issue: "Preview of the Peace We Want and Shall Have!" From the vantage point of 1960, the staff looks back upon such outstanding events as "A-Bomb Banned in '53," "Poll-tax-less Elections in '54," "Bill of Rights for Youth in '57," "Seventh World Youth Festival in Miami Beach, Fla., in '59." **R. S.**

A nice job, too. Address: Jewish Youth Builder (c/o Shneyer), 3544 Broadway, New York, N. Y. $1 for 12 issues. Ed.

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REPORT TO READERS ON 2 BUCKS

'Honest, free American Enterprise at work'

THIS COLUMN makes a habit of stressing how we think enterprising Americans who want to be free ought to invest $2 once a year. But it wasn't until last week, in the disclosures of that $10,000,000 "surplus tanker" deal engineered by former Rep. Joe Casey (D-Mass.) and Newbold Morris's law firm (he's the one that's investigating corruption in government), that we learned what we're up against in competition for $2 bills under the American Free Enterprise system.

The deal, as you know, was to buy eight surplus tankers, place them under foreign registry where their earnings would not be subject to corporate income taxes, then charter them at steep profits. Thus, in the last five years, the syndicate swinging this deal repaid a loan of nearly $10,000,000 to Metropolitan Life for the original purchase money; collected profits of some $2,800,000 from five of the ships which went under Panamanian registry, and $450,000 from the other three which went under Nationalist Chinese registry.

WHAT CAUGHT OUR INTEREST was how U.S. or "citizen" control was retained over the three ships registered to the Chinese Nationalist outfit. This "citizen control"—a technicality necessary to get preferential treatment originally in purchasing the ships—was arranged for by Mr. Morris's law firm, which apparently did a nice job of keeping initial expenses down in the deal. It was done by having three U.S. citizens put up $2 apiece for appropriate blocks of "voting stock."

What interested us further was Mr. Casey's frank and earnest statement that the various deals—beginning with "citizen control" at $2 a head so the ships could be bought at preferential low rates; leasing them to foreign companies where their earnings would not be taxable; and coming off with a total profit of $3,250,000 after paying everybody off—constituted nothing more nor less than "honest, free American enterprise at work."

IT'S NICE WORK IF YOU CAN GET IT, as Mr. Casey's friends did—but don't forget that he had some pretty important insiders working with him: former Secy. of State Edward R. Stettinius, Adm. Bull Halsey, a smart diplomat named Julius C. Holmes; and last, but not least, Mr. Morris's law firm.

If you have cronies like these to ease the way, you have Mr. Casey's word for it that your $2 can go far indeed under honest, free American enterprise.

IF NOT, may we again suggest that the best $2 investment we know is your GUARDIAN subscription renewal or a gift sub for a friend (not necessarily of the Bull Halsey type). Our whole deal, which in a more modest way is free American enterprise too, is explained across the page there, at the top of columns 1 & 2. Sorry, we can't arrange tax exemption but what do you want, egg in your beer? **THE EDITORS.**

What Struik taught

BELMONT, MASS.

The House Un-American Activities Committee in a report published last week has used my name and my person as a pretext for maligning the entire academic profession. For this reason I feel a moral obligation to reply.

I was engaged to teach mathematics at MIT and I have taught mathematics at MIT and nothing else, as thousands of my students will testify. In the classroom as well as in discussions with students I have tried to do as good a professional job as possible and to inspire my pupils with admiration and love for our common field of study. The task of a teacher is to help the students think for themselves, to encourage them to approach their instructor and criticize him if necessary and, above all, to abstain from indoctrination.

I am aware that this concept of the task of a teacher is totally different from that propagated by the Un-American Activities Committee which, by seeking to impose rigid thought control upon the colleges, would stifle free discussion and turn them into factories for mental robots.

As to my behavior as a private citizen, I do believe that my advocacy of the establishment of friendship and peace among all nations of the earth is entirely compatible with that loyalty to this country which we have the right to expect not only from our teachers but from all citizens, including Congressmen. **Dirk J. Struik**

Dr. Struik is facing a trial on charges of attempting to overthrow the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by force and violence. New Yorkers who would like their own estimation of the man will have a chance when Dr. Struik speaks March 18 at 8:15 p.m. at the Hotel Diplomat (Crystal Room), 108 W. 43d St., sponsored by the Monthly Review Associates. Tickets $1 from MRA, 66 Barrow St. I. F. Stone and Angus Cameron will also speak. Ed.

A fool's war

KINGSPORT, TENN.

Harry Truman proves that he is only a nominal Baptist and Mason by his kow-towing before the Vatican. No true American will go as ambassador to the Catholic Church.

This Truman war puts an eternal blot upon America. It is a fool's war. Two things we fear in this country—Peace and Democracy.

A. Preston Gray

Anti-madness

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

Here is my first dollar in the "dollar-a-month pledge" I made when I renewed my subscription. Can't think of an easier resolution to keep for 1952; only wish it were more. Bless your wonderful efforts towards security and peace in these mad, mad days of world tension.

Rose Schneiweiss

Whole world balks as NATO blusters

(Continued from Page 1)

Korea," said the question "discredits him who asks it."

MASSACRE OF POW's: Ridgway's anger climaxed a tightening censorship over the truce talks. Early this month allied correspondents were ordered to stop "consorting and drinking" with Communist correspondents at Panmunjom—practically the only source of news on the talks. With tightening last

Canadian Tribune, Toronto

"We don't want the Security Council interfering — we've kept it going for months without them!"

week of an earlier ban on access to transcripts, these questions were reported stalling the talks: inclusion of the U.S.S.R. in neutral inspection teams; a ban on airfield repair in North Korea; voluntary POW repatriation. On the first question the Chinese-Korean stand was that "neutral nations" are nations that have not participated in the war; if the U.S.S.R. is not one, "there would be no neutral nation anywhere in the world." (**UP**, Feb. 21, suggested U.S. objections stemmed from fear that "the Red propaganda machine could hail Russia as a peaceful nation trying to keep the peace in Korea.")

U.S. refusal to permit joint Chinese-Korean Red Cross and Intl. Red Cross inspection of U.S.-controlled POW camps (the Koreans agreed to such inspection) seemed to strengthen charges of brutality and forcible indoctrination in these camps by South Korean and Kuomintang "instructors" under U.S. direction. The Chinese said at Panmunjom, Jan. 22:

> **The fact that hundreds of instructors have been brought from Taiwan (Formosa) to the U.S. POW camps and were forcing prisoners to join the so-called "Anti-Communist National Salvation Corps," and that prisoners were being tattooed with anti-Communist slogans, was evidence enough of the real meaning of American "free choice" and "voluntary repatriation."**

The Communists had charged the U.S. with trying to withhold POW's forcibly from repatriation. Last week the massacre on the prison island of Koje of 73 Korean "civilian internees," the wounding of 100 others (one GI was killed, 39 wounded), was reported. The Army's first account, held up for four days, said 1,500 GI's were involved, later put the figure at 750. Its explanation was that a "Communist hard core" in the compound, seeking to prevent screening of others on their political loyalties, attacked the GI's. But **AP** (Feb. 23) reported that "practically all the prisoners in the compound participated." It said prisoners attacked the soldiers screaming: "Kill the Americans!" Communist negotiators suggested the prisoners might be some of 44,000 former soldiers reclassified as South Koreans or civilians by the U.S. to prevent their repatriation.

NIGHTMARE DILEMMA: The U.S. dilemma in Korea was called by the Alsop brothers (Feb. 24)

> **. . . a nightmare choice [between] indefinite prolongation of a strategically impossible situation [and] unilateral action to force the issue, accepting both the risk of general war and the alienation of all this country's allies.**

James Reston (N.Y. **Times**, Feb. 21) said Washington was seeking British, French and other support for "joint action in Southeast Asia." The N.Y. **World Telegram** (Feb. 23) said if fighting resumes in Korea, the

> **. . . plan here is to carry war to South China. . . . U.S. leaders are convinced we can defeat China with tight naval blockade and air attack on China rail lines. . . . Pentagon figures stategy would also relieve pressure on Indo-China and draw Red air force out of Korea.**

"CRISIS" IN PREPARATION: In Lisbon the Foreign Ministers of 14 NATO countries met secretly to consider what Canada's Lester Pearson called "an immediate crisis in Asia." In Singapore U.S., British, French army, navy and air attaches from Indo-China met to map the "defense of Southeast Asia." From Burma **AP** (Feb. 21) reported that Chiang Kai-shek troops control nearly all the province of Kengtung, on China's border, and have built at Monghsat, with U.S. aid, a 2,000-foot airfield from which to attack China.

U On Myint, asst. editor of Burma's **The Nation**, gave a detailed account of these activities after a trip through the area. He said an army of 13,000 Chiang troops, armed with U.S. equipment, reportedly advised by U.S. officers, were poised to attack Yunnan as soon as a second airfield is completed. The Peking radio (Feb. 21) charged that U.S. planes had staged three more strafing and bombing attacks in Manchuria, added that in 40 days ending Feb. 9, 51 separate groups of U.S. planes had made 248 flights over Northeast China. Peking said:

> **Increasing provocations by U.S. aircraft fully reveal why the Americans are time and again causing d lay in the Korean armistice negotiations and show up the U.S. scheme to extend the war of aggression.**

Anti-U.S. riots in Japan

IF Washington did not want to make peace, its difficulties in making war were multiplying. Japan, its chief bastion in Asia, was shaken last week (**AP**, Feb. 22) by

> **. . . the biggest series of riots and anti-American demonstrations since the outset of the occupation. . . . The tone of the demonstrations was violently anti-American. They were carried out with the slogan "Anti-Colonization of Japan by the U.S."**

In Tokyo alone (demonstrations occurred in 26 other cities) more than 10,000 police were mobilized; the Yoshida government seized the opportunity to attempt a revival of the pre-war political police. The resentment was directed not only against rearmament and maintenance of U.S. troops in Japan but against the U.S.-dictated severance of normal economic relations with China.

Reuters (Feb. 21) said that in current U.S.-Japanese negotiations for a Security Pact, Japan "is acutely conscious of American pressure." Yoshida refused to agree to submit the pact to the Diet. Chicago **Daily News** (Feb. 18) said "many Japanese" fear the pact

Americas peace congress

The dove of peace found "No Parking" signs up in Brazil as word came that the Vargas government, which had promised full facilities for the American Inter-Continental Peace Conference, turned tail and banned the meeting. N.Y. **Times** correspondent Sam Pope Brewer reported that Minister of Justice Negrao de Lima had said the ban "was Brazil's duty to her friends, notably to the U.S." The U.S. sponsoring committee protested to Washington and Rio, went ahead with its plans for a delegation, urged other organizations to do likewise. Negotiations were under way with several other government for dove-landing facilities.

Wall Street Journal, New York

"This inflation spiral—how do I get into it?"

"will drag them into war without their consent." The **Manchester Guardian** (Feb. 17) said that a favorable vote on rearmament in a national referendum (which the constitution properly requires) would be "very doubtful."

RETURN THE KEY: ONA (Feb. 19) reported that Yoshida's recognition of the Formosa government was

> **. . . the most unpopular step taken by the Prime Minister since he came to power. . . . The majority of Japanese bank on China . . . as the golden key to their economic impasse. They increasingly are blaming the U.S. for impeding normal Sino-Japanese relations. They see this . . . as an attempt to keep Japan tied indefinitely to Uncle Sam's economic apron strings. The Japanese do not welcome American aid as the permanent solution to their problems. . .**

The Washington **Post** (Feb. 17) said:

> **Japan has recently shown an upsurge of sympathetic interest in China and its people which has nothing to do with politics. In the months immediately ahead, Japan is likely to give a high priority to its relations with Asia, particularly to improving relations with China and trade with Southeast Asian countries.**

FORTHCOMING EXPLOSIONS: In the rest of non-Communist Asia Washington's policy was almost equally unpopular. Australian opposition leader Herbert Evatt denounced the Japanese peace treaty as a menace to "the physical and economic safety of the peoples of the South Pacific and Southeast Asia." John Foster Dulles in New York castigated New Zealand Premier Holland for the "dangerous" differences between U.S. and British Commonwealth policy in Asia, demanding that "you will take steps to become closer partners of the U.S. in the Pacific." In Indonesia the government fell because it accepted U.S. military aid.

In Britain the Labour Party pressed its motion of censure against Churchill for failure to make British Far East policy clear in Washington. The N.Y. **Times** reported from London (Feb. 24):

> **Since the debate was interrupted, voices from across the Atlantic have increased British anxiety about where American policy is heading and how far Britain is expected to go in support of it, and increased popular support for the left wing's insistence on great independence in this country's diplomacy.**

Planned chaos at Lisbon

THE NATO meeting in Lisbon—despite cries of "a new day" with its approval of German rearmament—underlined Washington's difficulties in organizing colonial powers for a war their own peoples reject. The Lisbon parley:

- Heard a survey of "11 objectives of Soviet foreign policy," none of which involved war (three were neutralization of Germany, Japan, Finland; another, "peace campaigns in the Middle East"; another, "to use UN as a vehicle for Soviet propaganda").
- Voted to spend $300,000,000,000 on arms in the next three years, raise 50 divisions by the end of 1952, construct 21 airbases in France and Morocco this year as part of an overall program for 60 African and European air bases, extend its "defense area" to Morocco and Tunisia.
- Voted for a European Army with "German" (not "West German") participation, for an annual review of all members' military budgets, enabling the U.S., which controls all top NATO bodies, to tell the others how to spend their arms money without regard to "national pride."

EVERYBODY'S BROKE: Where the money was to come from, there was no inkling. In London Churchill, amid cries from Tory backbenchers and Labourites that the U.S. is "a greedy colossus that had enslaved the sterling area countries" (**Times**, Feb. 23), admitted Britain could not fulfill its arms program on schedule. The French franc sank to a new low, despite U.S. promises to give France a higher priority in aid and to speed up an already-promised half billion dollars in arms, etc.

The U.S. could not get its allies to agree to contribute what it thought they should to the air-base program. The "serious economic dislocations" these bases would cause in some areas, notably Belgium, where "the amount of ground to be devoted to airfields will mean a loss of agricultural production and a major distortion of highway and rail transport" (**Times**, Feb. 22), had yet to be faced. U.S. insistence on bases on Denmark and Norway—regarded by both countries as a provocation to Moscow—deepened European skepticism about Acheson's promise NATO would fight no preventive war.

"RESCUE" WON'T TAKE: German rearmament was voted without reference to the conditions attached to it by the French Assembly and the Bonn parliament. At earlier London talks between Acheson, Schuman, Adenauer and Eden, important concessions had been made to Bonn: France promised to stop beating the drums about the Saar; Bonn was promised eventual NATO membership (effective if not formal membership) is assured now by its commanding industrial power); Bonn was given a seat on a new tribunal to review war-crimes cases; only limit on German arms production was a decision that it would be determined by the "European Defense Community."

The **Wall St. Journal** (Feb. 20) said these decisions provided only "a very temporary rescue" of the German rearmament plans. The Foreign Ministers

> **. . . managed to patch the gaping crack in French-German relations — but the hasty repairs are not permanent. Don't be surprised if the split reopens and widens even further in coming weeks.**

Hardly had Adenauer returned to Bonn when West Germany again raised the ante: the two right-wing parties in the government coalition demanded restoration of Germany's 1937 frontiers and real fulfilment of the conditions voted by parliament as the price for rearmament.

Action, Paris

"Your Kampf is mein Kampf."

"AN AIR OF UNREALITY": The Lisbon conference congratulated itself on achieving the foundation of French-German political agreement. London's **New Statesman & Nation** (Feb. 23) commented:

> **When Mr. Acheson talks of bringing France and Germany together and reconciling their differences, he should remember that so far the one undoubted point of unity between them is opposition to his plans.**

Lisbon had "an air of unreality . . . because diplomats propose but parliaments dispose" (Ludwell Denny, N.Y. **World-Telegram**, Feb. 20). Both the French and West German parliaments have already overruled their cabinets on the decisions taken, and:

> **This situation would be bad enough if it had been created merely by partisan political maneuvres in Bonn and Paris. But [it] is all the worse because the nullifiers speak for the German and French people.**

Guardian boosters!

Having a party, a clambake or a bull session for the GUARDIAN? Wherever you are, let THEODORA PECK in on your plans in advance. She'll help you with invitations, lists and whatnot. Write her at 17 Murray St. N.Y.C. 7, N.Y. or call her at WOrth 4-1750.

'RANK INJUSTICE' IN PENNSYLVANIA

The Truitt Case: the rackets and the FBI 'get' their man

AS we go to press a change of venue for a new trial has been won by a Pennsylvania business man, Harry W. Truitt Jr., after serving ten months of a four-year jail sentence slapped on him in racket-ridden Westmoreland County for seeking to use his own telephone in his own place of business against the orders of an intruding New Kensington, Pa., police captain.

Truitt's conviction came about, of course, because he was (and is) a leader of the Progressive Party and a lifelong fighter against the political machines of Westmoreland Co., described in Collier's last year as the most corrupt and racket-ridden area of the entire U. S. A.

The chief witness against him turned out to be not the aggrieved cop but the infamous Matthew Cvetic of FBI stoolpigeon fame. After the conviction Truitt and three co-defendants were refused bail during their appeal and spent ten months in the Westmoreland County workhouse. In ordering a new trial by a 6-2 State Supreme Court decision last month ,the chief justice observed:

"In all my experience I have never seen such rank injustice."

In the meantime, with Truitt in jail during the whole period of the appeal, his wife had to liquidate his business to raise $10,000 for legal costs. The defendants face a new trial penniless except for a $30-a-week job Mrs. Truitt has found in Pittsburgh.

Before the change of venue was granted, the GUARDIAN assigned special reporter William A. Reuben—famed for his coverage of the Trenton Six and Rosenberg cases—to collect the facts. We are late in getting on the job in this case—but not too late, we hope, to enable GUARDIAN readers to chip in to help Harry Truitt and his co-defendants win a complete victory against Westmoreland County justice. Contributions may be sent to Progressive Party of Pennsylvania, 1215 Walnut St., Philadelphia.

By William A. Reuben
GUARDIAN special correspondent

PITTSBURGH, PA.

HARRY W. TRUITT Jr. of New Kensington, Pa., is the kind of American the Voice of America says it likes to tell the world about.

He is (or was up until early 1950) a successful small businessman, member of the Chamber of Commerce. At 50 he is still happily married to the same charming wife, mother of his two grown-up daughters. Like his father before him and like many others of four generations of two-fisted Truitts in Western Pennsylvania, he is independent in politics, outspoken against corruption and a man of abiding civic consciousness, always in the forefront of activity to make his community a better place to live in.

Living in the heart of the coal mine and steel country, he is pro-labor and a leading antagonist of prejudice against any of his neighbors for reasons of race, color, religion or foreign origin.

Yet the Federal Bureau of Investigation of Harry Truitt's government has conspired with corrupt local authorities to frame Truitt, put him in jail, impoverish him and destroy his good name for his uncompromising adherence to the very principles the Voice of America likes to attribute to the model American—for foreign consumption.

"WANTED" SINCE '45: The Powers That Be in W. Pennsylvania have been out to get Truitt since 1945.

In 1945 he became chairman of the Citizens' Political Action Committee of New Kensington (pop. 25,000). Today the same things are being said in high places that Truitt and his Citizens' PAC set out to prove in 1945: that Westmoreland Co., Pa., is the most corrupt and racket-ridden area of the entire country (**Collier's**, 1951) and

> . . . a racket-backed courthouse ring . . . have ruled Westmoreland Co. with ruthless fist and heel for 20 years (Ray Sprigle in current Pittsburgh Post-Gazette series).

The first move against Truitt, when his Citizens PAC began to unearth these facts, was to try to put him out of business by forcing his landlord to

terminate the lease on premises Truitt had occupied for 25 years with his dental laboratory business. The landlord refused to be pressured.

PROGRESSIVELY "SUBVERSIVE": In 1947 Truitt took leadership in W. Pennsylvania for a third-party national ticket, and in '48 became one of the 700 national founders of the Progressive Party.

As PP chairman in Westmoreland County he got his first taste of red-baiting when Local 302 of the United Steelworkers, CIO, disregarded Philip Murray's directive to back Truman and backed Wallace and Taylor. With Truitt depicted as chief villain, the Local's entire leadership was hauled up on charges and most of them expelled for "trying to turn the union over to a subversive group."

The Local rank and file rejected the trial board's findings, stuck with the PP through the '48 election. Promptly thereafter two of their leaders got what Westmoreland calls the "Iron & Coal" treatment, winding up in jail on trumped-up assault & battery charges. Veiled threats in the Murray-dominated union paper informed Truitt:

> You have had and still have your nose in Local 302's business, and if you don't mind your own business, Local 302 will put you clean out of business.

That same month an ad appeared in a New Kensington newspaper listing Truitt as a D. D. S. He was arrested forthwith on charges of practicing dentistry without a license. The ad was phony; one of Truitt's office receipts signed with his name and the initials D. D. S. proved to be a forgery. The Commonwealth's star witness finally admitted she was paid to bring the action as part of a deal to frame Truitt.

THE CRIME: In March, 1950, a picketing action was begun against a local outlet of a New York clothing company which had locked out 35 members of Dist. 65, Distributing, Processing & Office Workers. The New Kensington store, Eagle Credit Clothing, was just down the street from Truitt's establishment; he agreed to let pickets store their signs in his place and use toilet facilities at the end of his second-floor hallway, alongside his laboratory and office. On the third floor, the family's living quarters, Mrs. Truitt and her daughters provided rest facilities for woman pickets and occasionally served coffee and sandwiches to off-duty pickets—men and women, Negro and white.

The picket line had trouble from the start, despite a permit to picket from the mayor and chief of police. A picket was arrested five minutes after the line started marching; the Negro picket captain, Robert T. Smith, was arrested too when he sought to free the other picket, and ordered to get out of town.

THE STAGE IS SET: To test this ultimatum, Smith and a Dist. 65 organizer joined the picket line again three days later, were promptly arrested and warned that if they showed up again they would be "locked up and the key thrown away."

The union promptly filed suit for $50,000 damages in Smith's name and for an injunction and court order permitting the picketing to proceed.

On Saturday, March 18, Smith rejoined the line and picketing proceeded peacefully throughout the day. At the Truitt's at about 8:30 that evening, Mrs. Truitt and her daughters were having coffee with two women pickets on the third floor. On the laboratory floor Harry Truitt was discussing the ups and downs of the pickets' legal battle with one of the pickets, Lester Peay, a Negro, and with his laboratory assistant, 23-year old John F. Allen, a Negro and a son of the Truitt firm's and family's laundress. Allen was off duty but had returned to deliver laundry.

THE CHASE: Suddenly a man ran past the door shouting that there had been a fight on the picket line. Truitt and the two other men ran down to the street, where they met Police Capt. John Bordonaro. As they rushed past, Bordonaro shouted: "Did that picket run up there?"

The three men called back that they didn't know, and continued toward the scene, where they found an excited crowd but no more fighting. The police had taken four men to the precinct station—three who had attacked the picket captain and one, a 60-year old miner named John Kuchek, who had pitched in on the pickets' side.

The three men hurried back to Truitt's office, where Truitt picked up the phone to call his attorney. As he did so, Capt. Bordonaro appeared from the hallway, apparently from upstairs, and barked: "Doc, put that phone down."

HARRY W. TRUITT JR.
A scandal in Westmoreland

THE BATTLE: Truitt refused, and told the policeman he had no right in the premises without a warrant. Bordonaro grabbed for the phone. Nobody now remembers for sure whether the cop yanked too hard or whether Truitt feloniously let go, but anyway the cop smacked his wrist against the doorway. As he did so, he saw Peay starting upstairs and grabbed for him. In the narrow stair landing, both men fell with Peay on top. Bordonaro got to his feet, grabbed Peay again and started down the stairs with him.

Truitt called after him: "That man is in good shape now, and I want to see him that way when I get down to the station." Then he told Johnny Allen to go along to make sure Peay did not get beaten.

Allen raced downstairs after the cop and Peay, and on the sidewalk he too was placed under arrest. Truitt meanwhile went upstairs to his apartment, where he found the beaten picket, Robert Smith, and the man who had run up the stairs with the alarm, Charles B. Tarpley, also a Negro picket. Mrs. Truitt, overhearing the fracas downstairs, had called the attorney, who arrived within a few minutes.

The whole group including Mrs. Truitt, her daughters and the two woman pickets were discussing what to do next when two policemen arrived with warrants for Truitt and Smith and one John Doe warrant which was served on Tarpley. On the advice of Truitt's attorney, the three men accepted service of the warrants and went along to the station house. By midnight the score was six men including Truitt and the 60-year old miner in jail; the three who had started the fight released.

"JUSTICE": The three released men turned up next August as witnesses against the others. They described themselves as John Fee, 23, paint salesman; Donald Fostina, 29, and Thomas Gallian, 32, "students." Fee turned out to be a parolee from a five-year armed robbery sentence in California, released (according to Sprigle, Pittsburgh **Post-Gazette**) by the "long arm and powerful influence of the Mannerino mob in New Kensington." As for the two "students," the only thing anyone recalls Gallian ever studying was a racing form; Fostina's chief course of study was the pasteboards, of which he was employed as a dealer in the Garibaldi Club, one of New Kensington's best-protected gambling joints.

This, then, is the background to the travesty of justice in which cops, the "racket-backed courthouse ring," city officials, thugs, newspapers, corrupt union officials, and the FBI's ever-ready reservoir of paid informers finally rid New Kensington of Harry W. Truitt Jr. —or did they?

Next week: the trial, appeal, and how to help Harry Truitt win out against the frame-up artists of Westmoreland Co. and the FBI.

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THE JEAN FIELD STORY—III

'Tell them we'll win because we're right . . . that we'll be together again'

By Albert E. Kahn

ON Nov. 2, 1951, I interviewed Judge Harold Schweitzer in his chambers at the Los Angeles County Court House. A suave, neatly-groomed man in his early forties, he greeted me with the affability of an adept politician. When I mentioned the Jean Field case, he instantly went on the alert. He said:

"A most unfortunate affair. Where did you get your facts about the case?"

"From the hearing transcripts," I said, "from the material issued by the Jean Field Committee and . . ."

"Of course the material from that committee is distorted."

"In what way?"

"It only gives the human side of the case. . . . You see, Mr. Kahn, I had to respect the ruling of a sister state."

"GREAT DEAL OF SYMPATHY": I asked if the war in Korea or other political factors affected the decision.

"Not in the slightest."

"Then why did you allow Mrs. Field to be interrogated so extensively about her political and social views?"

"I've got two children of my own" (avoiding my question). "Believe me, I felt a great deal of sympathy for that young woman."

"And still you turned her children over to a man with a police record who deserted her 10 years ago?"

"I had no choice."

"And you wouldn't grant her lawyer 24 hours' delay to appeal your decision?"

"I was afraid she might skip off with the children to another state."

When I reminded him that the children were being held in custody at the time, he reddened and made no reply. Finally I asked why he had refused Jean Field ten minutes to say goodbye to her children.

"Does the material from the Jean Field Committee claim that?"

"It does." (The court record also does.)

"Hell, that's a lot of crap."

A TIME FOR PEACE: That same day I met Jean Field. Almost a year had passed since she saw her children; she could neither write nor speak to them on the phone; she did not even know if they were well or ill. But the slender, dark-haired young woman had lost none of her courage and passionate determination to regain them. She spoke animatedly of the Jean Field Committee campaign to publicize the case and raise funds for an appeal.

Even a letter she had sent the children on the previous Christmas had been kept from them; Vernon's lawyer wrote that he had advised his client not to transmit "that type of correspondence" to the children as it was "in the same objectionable vein as the letters introduced at the trial." I saw a copy of the letter. It read in part:

This is Christmas time—a time at which we pay special homage to the birth of Jesus, who later became known as the "Prince of Peace"; a man who carried always in his heart a great and abiding love for all mankind, who taught that goodness, justice, love, peace, responsibility for one's fellow man transcended any man-made laws which were contrary to these principles. Because He lived, practised and taught these ideals He was crucified on a cross.

Today it is especially fitting that we again renew our faith and defense of these principles for which He died; to make His teaching a living reality.

"TELL THEM WE'LL WIN": I asked Jean if she could explain Vernon's wanting the children back after so many years during which he deliberately had nothing to do with them. She replied:

"It's not really Vernon. Actually he doesn't want them any more now than he did before. The grandfather is the one really behind this. Vernon's been a bitter disappointment to his father. And here his father saw a chance of getting hold of the grandchildren—Jay especially."

I said I was going to visit Oklahoma City and there was a chance I might see Jay and Mary Kaye while I was there; could I give them a message? Her eyes lit up:

"Oh, please—give them all my love. Tell them we'll win because we're in the right. Tell them that one day we'll all be together again."

THEIR NEW "HOME": It was shortly after 8 a.m. a few days later when I arrived at the house in Oklahoma City. A slight, balding, round-shouldered man in a bathrobe, whose weak face was covered with a stubble of beard, answered the front door. It was Vernon Field. I told him I was writing an article on the Jean Field case.

He glanced nervously into an adjoining room, where a handsome dark-haired boy was eating breakfast. I recognized the boy as Jay.

"I can't discuss the case now. The children are getting ready to go to school."

"I've got a car. Perhaps I can drive the children to school," I suggested.

He shook his head vigorously. "No, no," he said. "Come back later. Come back in an hour."

"TOO MUCH PUBLICITY": When I returned Vernon was waiting for me with his wife, a lean-faced young woman wearing a tight-fitting yellow sweater. He gave the impression of repeating something he had been told to say during this exchange with me:

"There's no reason in your coming to see me. Everything I have to say is in the court record."

"I saw Jean Field in Los Angeles. She was quite willing to talk with me."

"I'll bet she was. Publicity, sure, that's what she wants. Take this Jean Field Committee. Raising money for publicity. Maybe we ought to set up a Vernon Field Committee to raise money for me."

"You think publicity about this case is a bad thing?"

"There's been too much already. I don't want it. This case shouldn't be tried by the public but in the courts."

"Would you mind telling me just what your feelings are toward Jay and Mary Kaye?"

"It's all in the record."

"Why after ten years of showing no interest did you suddenly decide to take them from their mother?"

ANOTHER BATTLE: Vernon studied his hands in his lap. "You can look in the record," he said doggedly. I asked if the children were happy.

"Sure, they're happy," he said. "They never had any real family life before. . . ." He lit a cigarette. His hands were shaking perceptibly.

His wife broke into the discussion. "Why all this interest in the case anyway?" she asked. "After all, it's just another battle in the war against communism."

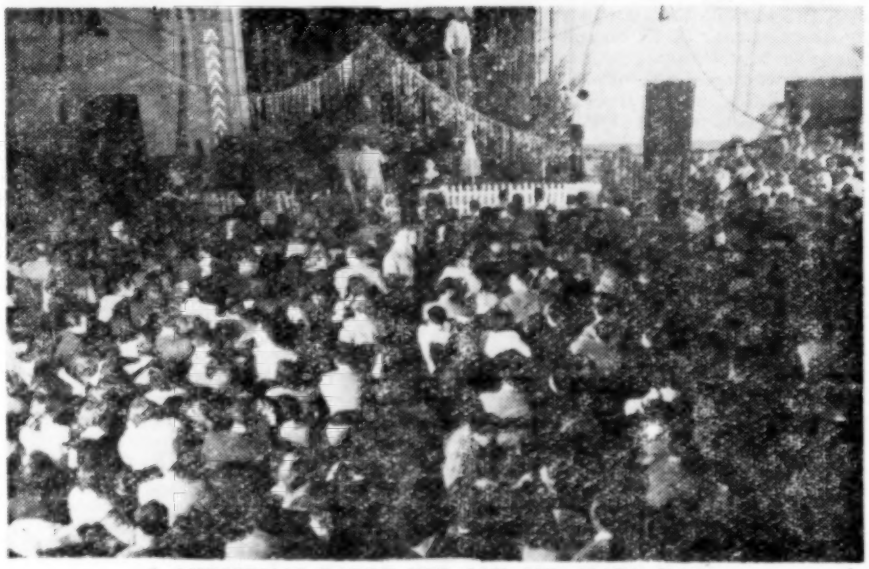
As I was about to leave, I said: "While I'm in Oklahoma City, I'd like to speak with Jay and Mary Kaye."

"I don't want that," Vernon Field told me.

"Why?"

"It would upset them," he said. He paused, then blurted out:

"Look—there's been enough publicity—everybody knows they want to go back to their mother."



A CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR JAY AND MARY KAYE

It was held last Christmas in Los Angeles to help raise money for the court fight. A lot of people came, as you see, including Herb Jeffries and Nat King Cole, Negro celebrities who understood.

What you can do

The Jean Field Committee, 5010 Sunset Bvld., Los Angeles 27, Calif., is in dire need of funds to appeal the case to higher courts. Here are other things you and your organization can do to help:

- Write Gov. Johnston Murray, State Capitol, Oklahoma City, Okla., urging he use his influence to have the "child-stealing" charge against Jean Field dropped. (Until it is, she cannot enter Oklahoma to take court action without the risk of arrest.)
- Inform the Jean Field Committee of action taken.
- Spread the facts with copies of Albert Kahn's pamphlet from which the GUARDIAN series was abridged. Price: 7c each for lots of 25 or more from the committee.

". . . here it was again"

"A loyalty oath for parents!" The audience in the packed courtroom audibly gasped. The judge just nodded. To me these words recalled my own dreadful experience in 1936 . . . [when] I received a legal document from Hitler's Gestapo from which my wife and I had just barely escaped to Paris. This document informed us that our demand to have our only child, a girl of eight, then living in Germany with my parents, join us in France was denied.

The reason: We were considered "unfit parents" because of our known views in opposition to the Nazi ideas. It took us 13 years and a world war before we saw our child again, as a young woman—in America.

And now, after so many years, here it was again. The same monstrous attempt of enforced conformity of thought by the state. Only this time it was not Hitler Germany, it was America. . . .

—Martin Hall, refugee author-lecturer on religion, writing on the Jean Field case in The Churchman, Feb. 15.

LABOR

Steel unmoved by Murray's pleas, barbs

PHILIP Murray, labor leader turned homespun lawyer, wound up a month-long debate before the six-man Wage Stabilization Board panel. He listed salary increases of steel magnates ranging from 34% to 105%. In the room was Bethlehem Steel's Joseph Larkin who, Murray said, got a 45% raise from $269,547 in 1950 to $356,134. Murray said:

"And now Joe's here busting his britches to kick the living hell out of the poor steelworkers. They [steel bosses] come here and say that if you give a worker making a paltry $1.21 an hour a raise to $1.46 the nation is going to hell on roller skates."

As he spoke, a veiled exhibit he brought along tottered from its perch behind him. Unveiled at the right dramatic moment, it proved to be a petition entitled "Fight Inflation," calling for stricter price controls and plugging of big business tax loopholes.

BILLINGSGATE HOUR: Murray picked up a pen, turned to the steel bosses and called: "Come on boys. Sign with me. Here goes my John Hancock." As they sat silent Murray taunted: "These are the boastful bellyachers that complain about inflation." (Big Steel's line is that a 15c raise will necessitate a $5-a-ton boost and greater inflation.)

Later John Stephens, vice-pres. of U. S. Steel, used these phrases in rebuttal: "Poppycock, balderdash, demagogic, worthless . . . a new low . . . like James Stewart's performance in 'The Greatest Show on Earth.'" Murray referred to Stephens as "the evasive, slippery little Johnny." He called U. S. Steel's brief "reprehensible, filthy, lying."

The fireworks subsided and the panel retired at the week-end

. . . to confer with the WSB in Washington . . . to receive formal instruction on what to do with the thousands of pages of testimony submitted by industry and union witnesses (N. Y. Times).

PROFITS ARE SACRED: The union had a strike deadline set for Feb. 24, but on Thursday it was delayed till Mar. 23. Behind the statistics and verbal explosions were two possibilities: that a no-strike deal had already been made for a raise and a price rise that would set the pattern for all industry; that a steel strike might come which would then force the govt.'s hand to settle on the same terms but exonerate the industry from blame.

Economic stabilization administrator Roger L. Putnam has declared that the industry could pay "considerable wage increases without raising prices." But **U. S. News and World Report** wrote:

The administration is not likely to allow any major squeeze on profits. If profits are curtailed too much the tax receipts will fall drastically at a time when the government needs additional revenue for the arms program.

Barron's financial weekly predicted the same, noting that an election year would be an unlikely time to cut even swollen profits. U. S. Steel's net after all taxes in 1951 was $183,953,202; stockholders got $103,548,945 in dividends.

The steel settlement is thought likely to guide many industries. John L. Lewis was known to be waiting for the outcome before opening his own negotiations for coal contracts which expire March 31. (A simultaneous coal-steel strike is possible.) But he is unlikely to be limited by the final terms since he has always won a larger settlement than CIO Steel. The CIO Auto Workers are not likely to benefit since they are tied by contracts running to 1955, but steel rises may well boost auto prices.

Big Steel magnates at the WSB hearings.

Peace wallops cold war in Mexico

PRESIDENT MIGUEL ALEMAN of Mexico last week at Vera Cruz said: "We respect the rights of others and we wish ours to be respected as well." Thousands of messages poured in on him from Center and Left in Mexico, as if it were a declaration of independence.

It marked the breaking-off of military alliance talks with the U.S. Behind it was the story of how an increasingly compliant government was stiffened to the point of administering one of the heaviest setbacks suffered by cold-war diplomacy anywhere. Washington was stepping on the gas in its program to occupy strategic military posts in eight Latin American nations. The program calls for spending of $35,000,000 on arms, air and naval bases in Mexico, Chile, Peru, Cuba, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador and Brazil.

Mexico is to elect a president in July. Last fall Aleman named Adolfo Ruiz Cortinez as candidate of the government Revolucionario Institucional party. Ruiz was hand-picked as the most liberal in Aleman's circle, the least identified with the backsliding of the revolution, the return of U.S. companies, the Church's increasing influence in politics. He was meant to offset the opposition building up around Gen. Miguel Henriquez Guzman, a friend of universally respected ex-President Cardenas, who kept Mexico on the revolutionary road. Henriquez formed the Federation of People's Parties.

"SERIOUS THREAT": Early in the campaign there was talk of a united opposition. The talk failed to jell. Labor leader Vicente Lombardo Toledano, head of the CTAL (Latin-American Fedn. of Trade Unions), was nominated by his own Partido Popular, seconded by the Communist Party, campaigned on both tickets. Smaller parties, right and left, put up their own men.

Then the military talks opened. This was the way the N.Y. **Times'** Sydney Gruson described the bargaining:

> **Some observers believe that Mexican priority could be raised if the country would agree to make the concrete gesture of solidarity by sending a token force to fight in Korea. Thus far Mexico has flatly refused to contribute to the United Nations strength in Korea.**

The unified opposition which had seemed impossible suddenly became imminent. On Feb. 16 Gruson, who two weeks earlier had scouted the possibility of the governing party ever losing an election in Mexico, wrote:

> **Diplomatic observers concede that a coalition of leftists around Gen. Henriquez would provide a serious threat to PRI's unbroken 23-year hold on Mexican political power. The coalition's success at the polls could have calamitous results for U.S. relations with Mexico and would undoubtedly bring to a quick halt the growing economic political collaboration between the two countries. . . . A certain nervousness at the way things are turning out politically has been observed among PRI leaders.**

ALL FOR PEACE: What had happened was that a joint statement had come from the five major opposition parties: Henriquez Guzman's Federation, the Popular, Communist, Constitutionalist and Workers-Peasants Parties. It called on all Mexicans to repudiate the current negotiations, fight for peace, continental solidarity, national independence, both economic and political, denounced the talks as an attempt to interfere in Mexico's election politics.

It was not full unity yet, but it was enough to frighten the administration. Gen. Corona del Rosal, defending the military negotiations, warned that the army could suppress a rising in eight days. But the army is generally thought to favor Henriquez.

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NEW YORK

Board steamrollers trial of teachers

THE LAST ITEM on the agenda of New York's Board of Education February meeting was the ordering to trial of the second batch of eight purged teachers, already suspended for refusing to divulge their political affiliations or those of their fellow-workers.

In the audience were 250 parents and teachers; 500 more picketed outside. The board heard lawyers for the eight plead for postponement of all action—at least until the courts could rule on the board's authority to inquire into the teachers' beliefs.

The board refused, ordered the trial. Then, while many in the audience asked to speak, it adjourned. As police tried to clear the room Rev. J. Spencer Kennard, former missionary in China, an observer, said:

"These eight men and women have had the guts to stand up and be counted. They are heroes and I don't care whether they are Communists or not. They have a right to their own personal beliefs and their private lives should not be pried into. . . ."

One of the eight, Cyril Graze, said:

"Nor is it an accident that Supt. Jansen seeks to dismiss eight anti-fascist Jewish teachers while retaining in the classroom bigots like May Quinn who spread hate among the children they teach."

The Negro and Jewish press came to the teachers' support, among them the New York Age and the Jewish Examiner.

HEARINGS MARCH 12: The eight pleaded not guilty at hearings before 2 trial examiners. Appeals for postponement were denied, and March 12 was set for arguments on dismissal of the charges. If the examiners rule the trial must go on, as seems likely, it will begin 15 days after their ruling.

The Teachers Union, undeterred, rallied 400 to an Albany lobby to press for increased salaries and state aid to the schools, called a public meeting for Feb. 29 at New York's City Center Casino, 135 W. 55th St. Scheduled to speak are Arthur Garfield Hays and Dr. Forrest Wiggins of the U. of Minnesota.

George A. Timone, N. Y. county board member, meanwhile announced that the problem of communists in the schools is "pretty much under control" but that there is a new enemy: "the complete secularization of the schools."

On another front parents beat off the attempt by Asst. Supt. Burger to order that all principals be members of Parents' Assn. executive boards, and that all speakers at parents' programs be approved by the principal.

PEACE

Senate group OK's UMT; fight grows

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Feb. 13—(AP)—Alabama Adjt. Gen. Walter J. (Crack) Hanna urged that Congress enact a UMT program "as tough and as real as war itself." The World War II regimental commander said he hopes the training period is not taken up with character guidance, sex educaation and similar lectures. . . .
—The Atlanta Constitution, Feb. 14, 1952

IN THE FINAL DAYS of Congressional hearings there was a floodtide of opposition against UMT that included the nation's most powerful farm, church and labor organizations.

The 12 members of the Senate Armed Services Committee heard the opposition, then last week voted unanimously to recommend a bill providing six months' basic training for every 18-year old boy followed by 7½ years' in the reserve.

The House Armed Services Committee had already voted out a similar bill; the House seemed likely to act first.

In the closing days of the Senate hearings James G. Patton, president of the Natl. Farmers Union, said:

"The main purpose of enactment of a permanent system of UMT is, in my opinion, indoctrination—conditioning of men's minds to a war psychology. Every citizen ultimately would accept top-down authority because he would be told over a period of years 'It's not your job to think.' Because of indoctrination the entire population ultimately would be conditioned to never question or protest orders of those in positions of power, whether civilian or military."

PROGRESSIVE PARTY

Illinois to launch big ballot campaign

AT a special planning meeting last week the Illinois PP executive committee charted an ambitious plan to place national and state candidates on the ballot. Despite the hampering state election laws, the PP plans to obtain signatures from all 101 counties, topped by a goal of 100,000 in Cook County (Chicago). There will be a major fund-raising campaign to finance the job.

Completed plans will be announced at a meeting Friday evening, March 14, at UE Hall, 37 S. Ashland Av. Vincent Hallinan is scheduled to make the major address.

The PP also anounced that its congressional and state senatorial committees will meet soon and announce support for independent or PP candidates for Congress and the state legislature. Corruption in politics will be made a big campaign issue.

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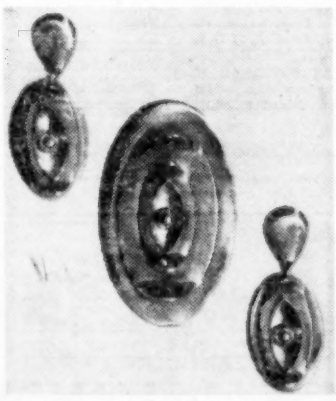

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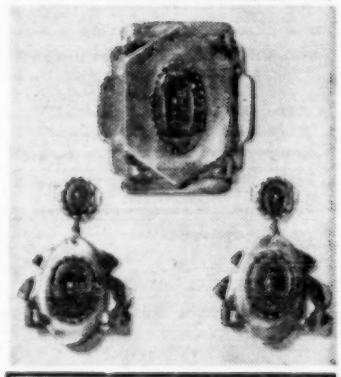

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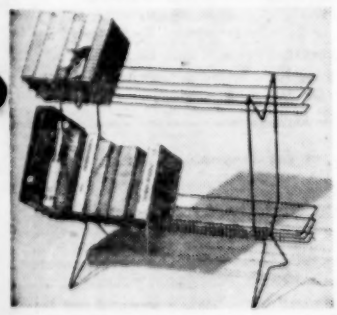

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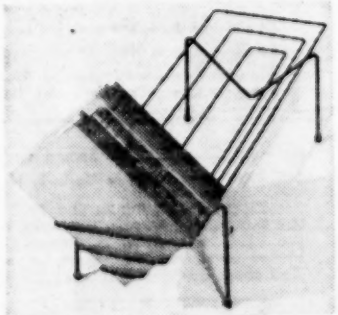

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FREEDOMS

Freedom issues bore solons, NAACP finds

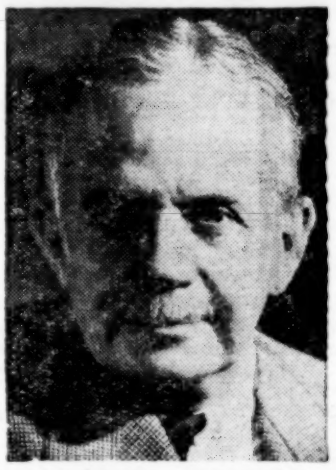
FROM more than 50 organizations in 31 states with a combined membership of about 35,000,000, nearly 1,000 delegates poured into Washington, D.C., the week-end of Feb. 17 for the Natl. Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People's Leadership Conference on Civil Rights. Delegates in state teams spent all day Monday buttonholing their Congressmen on civil rights issues. Results were disheartening; the big job, the delegates concluded, is to "change the membership of Congress."

Major aim of the conference was to revoke Senate Rule 22, which permits filibustering by making it impossible to shut off debate except by a "constitutional" majority of 64 votes. A change already approved by the Senate Rules Committee to limit debate by a vote of two-thirds of all members present was described as "virtually meaningless"; full backing was given to a measure offered by Sen. Herbert H. Lehman (D-N.Y.) which would close debate by a simple majority vote after 15 days' consideration of a bill. Speakers included Sens. Lehman, Humphrey (D-Minn.), Benton (D-Conn.), Ives, (R-N.Y.), United Auto Workers pres. Walter Reuther and CIO secy.-treas. James Carey.

In a letter to all Senators, the CIO declared that "as long as Rule 22 stands, it will be the No. 1 civil rights issue."

WHITE COOLS TO HST: President Truman, long supported by conservative Negro leaders, drew mild criticism from NAACP exec. secy. Walter White:

> "From recent indications many people have come to believe that he [Truman] is weakening in the fight for civil rights. While we recognize the fine contribution the President already has made in this field, we insist that there can be no 'cease-fire' in the fight to achieve full civil rights for all Americans."



WALTER WHITE
There was a change in mood

A. Philip Randolph, president of the AFL Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, proposed a four-point program:

- A delegation of Negroes, Catholics, Jews, Protestants and trade unionists to President Truman to demand that "the terrorism of minorities, especially Negroes in the South, must be stopped and the cowardly assassins apprehended and punished."
- A nation-wide radio message by the President warning of "this crisis in civil rights and what it is doing to destroy the confidence and faith in the world leadership of the U.S."
- Formation of a national commission on civil rights "to provide the basis of legislation and social and educational action on national, state and local levels."
- Major speeches from all Presidential candidates revealing their stand on civil rights and the "filibuster veto upon civil rights legislation."

BIG BLOW: Of leading Presidential contenders, White called Eisenhower, Taft, Kefauver and MacArthur entirely unsatisfactory on civil rights issues. He warned each candidate that "he must come clear, or else."

Many speakers bolstered arguments for civil rights legislation by calling it "a blow to communism." (Left-wing organizations, including the Civil Rights Congress, were barred from participation in the conference.) Reuther, who insisted civil rights laws "must be made the most important political and moral issue in the coming election campaign," saw defeat of Rule 22 as

> ". . . equivalent to 100 military divisions in the struggle with communist tyranny for men's minds, hearts and loyalties."

IRVIN LAWYERS MOVE: In Florida NAACP attorneys for Walter Lee Irvin, convicted and sentenced to death on a charge of rape a week ago, filed motions for a new trial, charging 22 errors to whittling Judge Truman G. Futch. No one expected him to grant a new trial, but the move was necessary to appeal to a higher court.

- In Trenton, N.J., Mrs. Cora Lee Kelly, one of whose sons was shot to death last August when he came to her defense against cops whose beating hospitalized her, was fined $100 on a disorderly conduct charge arising from the affair; another son was given a one-year jail sentence, a third three months.
- In Washington, D.C., Mrs. Marie Richardson, prominent Negro leader in civil rights issues, went on trial charged with giving false information when she denied Communist Party membership in applying for a government job. Also in Washington a move was under way for the appointment of a Negro to the three-member commission which administers the District of Columbia, the population of which is one-third Negro.
- In Cairo, Ill., nine NAACP leaders were out on bail on charges they had conspired "unlawfully, fraudulently, maliciously, wrongfully, wickedly" to enroll Negro children in white schools which violate a three-year-old state law barring segregation in state-supported public schools.
- In Gaffney, N.C., a KKK threat forced a Negro grocer to withdraw as a candidate for the City Council.

THIS IS YOUR FBI: With a record of zero in the Florida cases, the FBI made a great fanfare of its arrest of ten former KKK members near Fair Bluff, N.C., where a reign of terror has been continuous for 18 months (there were 11 known floggings last year). Two of the arrested are former chiefs of police, one is a town constable, another a deputy sheriff. Although the maximum penalty under the federal (Lindbergh) Kidnapping Act, under which they are charged, is death, all were released in $5,000 bail each. Charles P. Green, U.S. Atty. for eastern North Carolina, said he will not ask the death penalty. Although white and Negro both have been flogged in the area, the specific charge against the ten involve two white persons.

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AUSTRALIAN NEWS REVIEW, monthly, published in Melbourne; Editor, Brian Fitzpatrick; $2 a year surface, $5 air mail.

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